

CLASSIFICATION ~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Brandis Airfield		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTE			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		PREPARED	3 March 1955
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			25X1
This is UNEVALUATED Information			25X1

1. Between 5 and 27 January 1955, no aircraft were observed at Brandis airfield. On 9 January, 400 to 500 soldiers in 3 groups and led by 8 officers marched toward the target ranges east of Fraunteich (pond). A truck occupied by 2 men armed with rifles followed. Of the officers 2 wore red-bordered black epaulets, 4 black-bordered blue epaulets and 2 black-bordered red epaulets. The soldiers were 16 to 17-year old recruits. On 10, 11 and 13 January, about 15 ~~EM~~ practiced free-hand firing in standing position at a distance of ~~55~~ meters meters from the target range. On almost all the days, the runway was cleaned of snow by plows towed by caterpillar tractors. 25X1
2. Four quartering buildings along the road to Machern north of the main guard house and the komendatura building were occupied by EM and corporals wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. Three buildings located farther north along the road to Machern housed about 16 officer families. Another quartering building was occupied by about 60 women who were employed in the main administrative building and also were assigned to drill practices. It was believed that the individual quartering buildings housed 120 to 140 men, and that the installation might be occupied by about 500 men, all wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. This assumption appears to be fairly correct because, according to German workers, the field was vacant on 9 January 1955 when the 3 units left for firing practices.
3. No radio installations were observed near or at the airfield. 1
4. In connection with stricter security measures the following roads and paths were declared off limits and posted with warning plates:
  - a. The road to Machern, from the point where the side road to Brandis branched off to the intersection with the Zeititz-Brandis road near triangulation point 166.7.
  - b. Schuetzendammweg, both from the north near triangulation point 150.6 and from the south near the road which branches off from the road to Brandis.
  - c.. The Leulitz-Machern road which does not pass through Zeititz but runs southwest of it. Nodex

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d. The Zeitzitz-Brandis road as far as the intersection with the Polenz-Machern road.

~~As a consequence of these measures, the airfield could be approached only from the south and east.~~ 2

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1. Comment. Brandis airfield is still not occupied by an air unit. The ground attack regiment located there has not yet completed re-training on MiG-15s at Alt Leenewitz and Finsterwalde airfields. The service colors worn by the officers on 9 January 1955 indicates that the recruits, who will presumably be assigned to air force and artillery units, receive basic training altogether. The practices are apparently under the command of army officers.

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2. Comment. The blocking of the roads around the field may indicate an expected return of the ground attack regiment in the near future. For location of roads, see Map GSGS No 4414, sheet 4642/42.

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